

REMARKS

Status of Claims

Claims 1-33 are pending. Claims 1, 8-9, 16, and 26 were amended. Reconsideration of the rejections of claims 1-33 are earnestly solicited in view of the amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Objections

Claims 8 and 17 were objected to for minor informalities. Appropriate correction has been made to claim 8. However, the applicant does not believe that Claim 17 is in need of correction. Accordingly, the applicant believes that the objection to claims 8 and 17 have been addressed.

Rejection of claims 1-3, 5-12, 15, 16, 19-26, 29, 31, and 32 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 1-3, 5-12, 15, 16, 19-26, 29, 31, and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,270,752 to Kataoka *et al.* (hereinafter "Kataoka"). This rejection is respectfully traversed in view of the amendments made to the claims.

With respect to independent claims 1, 9, 16 and 26, Kataoka fails to disclose, among other things, "an illumination device for illuminating the projected medium for a fixed time period, wherein the projected medium forms a three-dimensional object, and the three-dimensional object is viewable circumferentially."

Kataoka discloses a fog screen capable of forming a sharp image. U.S. Patent No. 5,270,752 (issued Dec. 14 1993) col. 1, ll. 60-65. The optical image is projected onto the fog screen, allowing a viewer to see the image. *Id.* at col. 4, ll.5-15. The projected image is viewable only from a front or back of the fog screen. *Id.*

Unlike Kataoka, embodiments of the present invention generate three-dimensional objects that are viewable circumferentially. The three-dimensional objects may be viewed from the sides, front and back simultaneously. Therefore, for at least the

foregoing reasons the rejection of claims 1, 9, 16 and 26 should be withdrawn and claims 1, 9, 16 and 26 are allowable over the prior art.

Claims 2-3, 5-8, 10-12, 15, 19-25, 29, 31, and 32 depend on claims 1, 9, 16 and 26 and further define novel features of the claimed invention. Accordingly, claim 2-3, 5-12, 15, 19-25, 29, 31, and 32 are allowable by virtue of their dependence on claims 1, 9, 16 and 26.

Rejection of claims 1-6, 8-19, and 21-33 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 1-6, 8-19, and 21-33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,857,746 to Dyner (hereinafter “Dyner”). This rejection is respectfully traversed in view of amendments made to the claims.

With respect to independent claims 1, 9, 16 and 26, Dyner fails to disclose, among other things, “an illumination device for illuminating the projected medium for a fixed time period, wherein the projected medium forms a three-dimensional object, and the three-dimensional object is viewable circumferentially.”

Dyner discloses a floating image that can be viewed from the front of a cloud screen, or from the back of the cloud screen. U.S. Patent No. 6,857,746 (issued Feb. 22 2005) col. 9, ll. 20-45. Dyner further discloses that the cloud screen is created by ejection nozzles that may have different shapes. *Id.* at col. 11, ll. 35-40. The volume formed by the particulates and the density of the cloud screen determine the visibility of the image. *Id.* at col. 12, ll. 10-30. Sensors are utilized to reduce cloud turbulence so the reflected image may be viewed properly. *Id.* at col. 14, ll. 30-50. A three-dimensional space is utilized by a detector to determined the existence of user interaction. *Id.* at col. 16, ll. 25-40.

Unlike Dyner, embodiments of the invention generate three-dimensional objects that are viewable from angles greater than 180 degrees. Furthermore, users may view a front, sides, and back view of the three-dimensional object simultaneously. The three-dimensional object is contained within a volume created by the projector and the receiving mechanism. Therefore, for at least for the foregoing reasons the rejection of claims 1, 9, 16 and 26 should be withdrawn and claims 1, 9, 16 and 26 are allowable over the prior art.

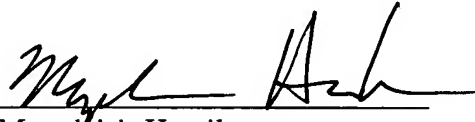
Claims 2-6, 8, 10-15, 17-19, and 21-25, and 27-33 depend on claims 1, 9, 16 and 26 and further define novel features of the claimed invention. Accordingly, claim 2-6, 8, 10-15, 17-19, and 21-25, 27-33 are allowable by virtue of their dependence on claims 1, 9, 16 and 26.

CONCLUSION

As set forth above, applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that this application be allowed and passed to issue. Should, however, any issues remain prior to issuance of this application, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned to resolve the same. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional amount required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-2112 referencing Attorney Docket No. MFCP.108794.

Respectfully submitted,

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Monplaisir Hamilton
Reg. No. 54,851

SHOOK, HARDY & BACON L.L.P.
2555 Grand Boulevard
Kansas City, Missouri 64108
Phone: (816) 474-6550
Facsimile (816) 421-5547